

17169 U.S. PTO
032404

Docket No.: 56545US007

Transmittal of Continuing Patent Application - Rule 1.53(b)

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.53(b), please file a continuation application of pending prior Application No. 09/837,073, filed on April 18, 2001.

Inventor(s): William Bedingham and Barry W. Robole

Title: MULTI-FORMAT SAMPLE PROCESSING DEVICES, METHODS AND SYSTEMS

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1. ☒ Enclosed is a copy of the Oath or Declaration in the prior application. (3 pgs.)
2. ☐ Enclosed is a newly executed Declaration and Power of Attorney.
3. ☒ Enclosed is a new application which includes:
 38 Pages of Application (including specification, claims and abstract)
 19 Number of Claims (consisting of 4 pgs.)
 7 Sheets of Formal Drawings
4. ☒ The entire disclosure of the prior application is considered as being part of the disclosure of the accompanying application and is hereby incorporated by reference therein.
5. ☐ A Preliminary Amendment is enclosed.
6. ☐ This application is being filed by less than all the inventors named in the prior application.
 Please delete the names of the following person(s) who are not inventors of the invention being claimed in this application: _____
7. ☒ The fee for filing this application is computed as follows:

Claims as Filed				
(1) For	(2) Number Filed	(3) Number Extra	(4) Rate	(5) Basic Fee: \$770.00
Total claims	19 - 20 =	0	x \$18.00	\$0.00
Independent claims	5 - 3 =	2	x \$86.00	\$172.00
Additional fee for filing one or more multiple dependent claims			\$290.00	\$0.00
Total Amount Due				\$942.00

8. ☒ Please charge to Deposit Account No. 13-3723 any fees under 37 CFR §§ 1.16 and 1.17, which may be required to file and during the entire pendency of this application. This authorization includes the fee for any necessary extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136(a). To the extent any such extension should become necessary, it is hereby requested. One copy of this sheet marked duplicate is also enclosed.
9. An Assignment
 - ☒ to 3M Innovative Properties Company is of record in the prior application.
 - ☐ from Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Company to 3M Innovative Properties Company has been filed/is being filed concurrently in the prior application but is not yet recorded.
 - ☐ to _____ is enclosed along with a completed Assignment Recordation Cover Sheet.

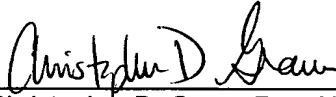
☒ Customer Number for
Correspondence Address:

32692

10. ☐ A Power of Attorney is enclosed.
11. ☐ Other enclosures:
12. ☒ Enclosed is a return receipt postcard.

Respectfully submitted,

March 24, 2004
Date

By: 

Christopher D. Gram, Reg. No.: 43,643
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Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
Facsimile No.: (651) 736-3833

Filing of Papers and Fees by Express Mailing

Pursuant to 37 § CFR 1.10, this application and the documents and fees listed on this transmittal letter are being deposited on the date indicated below with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date of Deposit

Mach 24, 2004

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